

Introduced Version

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. _____

Introduced by: Buck

A RESOLUTION honoring Pope Benedict XVI.

Whereas, The recent death of Pope John Paul II required the members of the College of Cardinals to select a new pope;

Whereas, On April 19, 2005, Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, a renowned theologian and enforcer of Catholic Church doctrine for the past two decades, was chosen to succeed his friend and close ally, Pope John Paul II;

Whereas, Cardinal Ratzinger chose the name Pope Benedict XVI and became the 265th leader of the world's largest and most powerful Christian institution;

Whereas, Cardinal Ratzinger, former Prefect of the

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Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, President of the Pontifical Biblical Commission and of the International Theological Commission, and Dean of the College of Cardinals, was born on April 16, 1927, in Marktl Am Inn, Germany, and was ordained as a priest on June 29, 1951;

Whereas, His father, a police officer, came from a traditional family of farmers from Lower Bavaria, and Cardinal Ratzinger spent his adolescent years in Traunstein;

Whereas, Cardinal Ratzinger studied philosophy and theology at the University of Munich and at the higher school in Freising, and obtained a Doctorate in Theology with a thesis entitled "The People and House of God in St. Augustine's Doctrine of the Church";

Whereas, Cardinal Ratzinger taught dogma and fundamental theology at the higher school of philosophy and theology of Freising, and was a professor of dogmatic theology and of the history of dogma at the University of Regensburg and vice president of the same university;

Whereas, At Vatican Council II, Cardinal Ratzinger became a consultor to Cardinal Joseph Frings, archbishop of Cologne, and in March 1977, Pope Paul VI appointed him Archbishop of Munich and Freising, the first diocesan priest in 80 years to take over the pastoral ministry of this large Bavarian diocese;

Whereas, Elected vice dean of the College of Cardinals on November 6, 1998, the Holy Father approved Cardinal Ratzinger's election, by the order of cardinal bishops, as dean of the College of Cardinals on November 30, 2002; and

Whereas, Pope Benedict XVI will be a strong leader who will guide the faithful with a loving and gentle hand: Therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

- 1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana House of Representatives is grateful
- 2 for the guidance and wisdom that Pope Benedict XVI will provide to
- 3 the faithful throughout the world.
- 4 SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of



- 1 Representatives transmit a copy of this resolution to the Most Holy
- 2 Father His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI.
- 3

